THE
CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR World

CEMBER, 1954 Topics For Janua

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Pacific Schoolof Religion
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Avedis Hassessian of Lebanon, Discusses Christian Endeavor Work

Youth Urged To Engage In Visitation Evangelism

For Christ and the Church

The
Christian Endeavor WORLD

Cover

Avedis Hassessian, Christian Endeavor leader in Lebanon, talks with officers at Great Lakes Regional Conference in Gary, Indiana. Pictured (left to right) are Rev. Bob Ross, field secretary for Indiana and Illinois; Ruth Wolfe, program chairman, and Rev. Elwood Dunn, vice-president of International Society in charge of Great Lakes Region. Photo by Ray Gard.

Articles and News

Coming to You by Way of the General Secretary 2
How To Win Youth 3
Columbus Gets Set For Convention 5
Young Adult Workshop 6

Topics

SENIOR—YOUNG PEOPLE (15-24 YEARS)
Why The Commandments? 8
We Study Commandments 1-4 ..10
We Study Commandments 5-10 ..12
We Study The New Commandment 14
Christ Our Loard—Man Our Brother 16

INTERMEDIATE (12-14 YEARS)
Keep Spiritually Healthy 9
Should Christian Young People Study on Sunday? 11
"Speak For Yourself, John" 13
Needed: "Early Christians" 15
Christ Our Lord—Man Our Brother 17

JUNIOR (9-11 YEARS)
List for January 19

The Voice of Christian Endeavor

DECEMBER — 1954

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Coming to You by Way of

The General Secretary

Evangelism Is Vital

Evangelism is primary in the program of Christian Endeavor. Individuals and societies are urged to be active in their efforts to introduce and to win youth to Christ. "Confession of Christ" is the first cardinal principle of Christian Endeavor. Facts and plans for visitation evangelism are presented in this issue of *The World.* Dr. Clyde W. Meadows, pastor of King Street United Brethren Church, Chambersburg, Pa., and vice-president of International Society, is the author of the article that gives many practical and useful ideas. Copies of Dr. Meadows' article may be secured in leaflet form from the International Society of Christian Endeavor, 1221 East Broad Street, Columbus 16, Ohio. Another leaflet, *What Is Evangelism?* written by Rev. J. Wesley Siebert, chairman of the Evangelistic Committee of International Society, may also be obtained from Columbus Headquarters.

Welcome To Rev. Bob Ross

Our hand is extended to Rev. Bob Ross who comes to the Staff of the International Society at Columbus, Ohio, January 1, as the new Educational Secretary and Citizenship Director. We warmly welcome him and know his coming will be helpful in the continued advance of Christian Endeavor. Congratulations to Al Day, president of Ontario (Canada) Union, who has been elected associate president of International Society, filling the office left vacant by Bob Ross' election to the Staff.

For Your Information

Dr. Ernest R. Bryan, president of International Society, was injured when he fell in a train going to a Christian Endeavor meeting in Philadelphia November 2. Dr. Bryan fractured three small bones in his right foot, which will be in a cast until December 16 — *W. Roy Breg* of Washington, D. C., executive secretary of Allied Youth, died October 31. Mr. Breg was a leader in Christian Endeavor for many years, at one time being field secretary for the Southern Region — *Mr. and Mrs. LaVerne Boss* of Kalamazoo, Michigan, are being congratulated on the arrival of Robert James September 28. Vern is a former associate president of International Society — *Dr. Reuben H. Mueller,* a trustee of International Society, was elected a bishop at the recent General Conference of the Evangelical United Brethren Church — *Mr. and Mrs. Norman E. Brown* were married September 18. Mrs. Brown was the former Gladys Ford. Norman is president of Ohio Union.

May You Have A Glorious Christmas

As we shortly celebrate the anniversary of the birth of Christ it is the wish of everyone at Headquarters in Columbus that you have a very merry Christmas. It is also our hope that you will experience many joys as you begin the New Year. It is interesting to note that a good number of Christian Endeavorers are planning and co-operating in watchnight services and fellowship programs for New Year's Eve.

Gene Stone

Visitation Evangelism . . .

How To Win Youth

Programs and Plans To Help Lead Others To Christ Told By Vice-President of International Society of Christian Endeavor

By Clyde W. Meadows

What is Evangelism?

Evangelism is the very essence of Jesus' mission here in the world: "The son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost." (Luke 19:10.) Christian Endeavor's part in evangelism is "to so present Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit that youth shall come to put their trust in God through Him—accept Him as Saviour, and serve Him as their King in the fellowship of His Church." (John 20:21.)

In January 1881 there came a real revival in the Williston Congregational Church of Portland, Maine, under the leadership of a young enthusiastic pastor and his wife, Rev. and Mrs. Francis E. Clark. More than thirty young people made decisions. The problem before this young pastor and his wife was to conserve the results of this revival and reach other young people in the community for Christ and the Church.

A plan envolved in the mind and heart of Francis E. Clark which came into an organized form with a group of young people gathered February 2, 1881 in the kitchen of Williston parsonage. Between the eating of sandwiches and cookies fresh from the oven the young people under the leadership of the pastor established the basic principles of a youth organization which came to be known as Christian Endeavor. The driving purpose was to develope the Christian life of the new converts and reach out in an organized soul winning effort to other young people of the community. This movement spread. By 1882 the first convention was held with six societies. In 1886 the International organization was formed and in 1892 when the movement was eleven years old, a convention of 35,000 met in New York City. From its beginning the movement has been definitely evangelistic in its nature and purpose.

Evangelism In C. E. Program

How does evangelism come into the program of Christian Endeavor?

(1) Through its *literature and materials* sent out from International, state, and county headquarters.

(2) Through *conventions.* The claim of Christ is and should always be presented by spirit-filled Christian speakers and leaders at conventions, and opportunity should be given in every convention for youth to commit themselves to Christ.

(3) In the *local society meetings.* A certain quiet, retiring young man came home from a Sunday evening Christian Endeavor meeting more joyful than usual. His aged grandmother inquired, "Did you have a good meeting tonight?" Whereupon, with a radiant countenance, he replied, "We certainly did. Everyone took part. Three of our associate members became Christians, confessed Christ for the first time tonight, and the rest of us told what Christ means to each of us, in school, at work, and at play, and believe it or not, I became so full of joy and the meeting was so wonderful that I spoke three times. Grandmother, our meeting tonight was indeed great! It was a glorious Christian Endeavor meeting. I hope we have many more like it."

(4) Through a *special series of evangelistic services* sponsored by the local society of Christian Endeavor. This should be done, of course, in close cooperation with the pastor and other agencies of the local church. Most pastors are very happy to have the youth share in this major activity of the church and are glad to let the Christian Endeavorers sponsor a week or two weeks of such services.

(5) By all means the Christian Endeavor should include *attendance* in a body certain nights of the *evangelistic or Holy Week services or Sunday evening evangelistic services* of the local church.

(6) Through *visitation,* by cooperating in the local church evangelistic visitation or engaging in a society program of evangelistic visitation planned and carried out by the local Christian Endeavor society under the guidance of the pastor or a counseller appointed by him.

LEAFLETS AVAILABLE

This article on visitation evangelism by Dr. Clyde W. Meadows is available in leaflet form for Christian Endeavor societies and other groups. Copies may be secured by writing to International Society of Christian Endeavor, 1221 East Broad Street, Columbus 16, Ohio.

"Agencies" at Work

All of these plans have been tried and found helpful in the Christian Endeavor program in many places.

Charles Grandison Finney has brought to the attention of Christians that there are always four agencies at work whenever a person accepts Christ and becomes a Christian. These agencies are: *A witnessing Christian, the Word, the Holy Spirit,* and *the individual himself.*

The individuals are waiting to be won. It is estimated that in America three out of four youth 12 to 24 years of age make no Christian profession and have no church affiliation. The Holy Spirit is always faithful. "The Spirit and the bride say come." (Revelation 22:17.) The Word—the great truths of the Bible are available to all for presentation. "My Word shall not return unto me void." But the great task of all church groups is to secure personal witnesses. "Ye shall be witnesses." (Acts. 1:8.) This is the task of every Christian and should be a real challenge to Christian Endeavorers everywhere.

How To Organize

How shall we organize a visitation program of evangelism in our society?

1. Such a program must begin and continue not only in an atmosphere of prayer but must be saturated with prayer. Prayer is the mightiest weapon that God has given his followers. Read carefully, attentively, and prayerfully these passages, Luke 11:9, II Chronicles 7:14, Jeremiah 33:3, I Thessalonians 5:17, John 14:13-14, Matthew 9:38, I John 5:14-15. How long will it be before a group of young people will claim these promises?

Start a chain of prayer several weeks in advance of your intensive program of visitation and pray not only individually but join with one another in praying for certain ones whom you purpose to win for Christ and the Church. (Matthew 18:19.)

(*Please Turn to Page* 18, *Col.* 1)

Rev. Bob Ross Elected To Staff Of International Society

Leader To Serve As Educational Secretary and Citizenship Director--Albert Day, of Canada, Chosen Associate President

Rev. Bob Ross will begin his new duties as Educational Secretary and Citizenship Director of the International Society of Christian Endeavor January 1.

The Executive Committee of the International Society at its meeting October 23 elected Mr. Ross to be a member of the Headquarters staff at Columbus, Ohio. Since August of 1953 he has been field secretary for Christian Endeavor in Indiana and Illinois. At the International Convention in Denver he was chosen Associate President.

Albert Day of Ridgeway, Ontario, Canada, was elected to the post of Associate President of International Society by the Executive Committee when that office was made vacant by the selection of Mr. Ross to new responsibilities.

Mr. Ross' Career

The new Educational Secretary and Citizenship Director, who is 25 years old, was born and raised in Tulare, California. He was president of his local society and his county union. "Bob," as his friends call him, went to Northwest Christian College, Eugene, Oregon, to study for the ministry. While in that state he was stewardship superintendent, regional vice-president, and president of the Oregon Union. After graduating from college in 1952 he was Youth Director of St. Johns Christian Church of Portland, Oregon, for a year.

While he has been serving as field secretary for Christian Endeavor in Indiana and Illinois Mr. Ross has been studying part-time at the Butler School of Religion, Indianapolis. In 1950 he he was runner-up in a contest to select "Mr. Christian Endeavor of North America." He is an ordained Christian (Disciples of Christ) minister.

New Associate President

Albert Day, new associate president of International Society, is president of Ontario (Canada) Christian Endeavor Union. He has served in various capacities in local societies, held various superintendencies in the Welland County Union, and before becoming head of the Ontario Union was vice-president.

Rev. Bob Ross

Albert Day

Since 1951 Mr. Day has served as secretary of Christian Education for the Ontario Conference of the United Brethren in Christ and has been assistant to the pastor of the Niagara Circuit of that conference. Mr. Day was valedictorian when he graduated from Ridgeway High School. He received a degree from Huntington College in 1950. While at Huntington he was listed in *Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges for* 1949-50.

Why not give a youth a Christmas gift of a membership in the International Society of Christian Endeavor? For details write to 1221 East Broad Street, Columbus 16, Ohio.

1,700 Attend Conferences at Los Angeles Union Camp

Eight conferences with a total enrollment of 1,700 were held at Tahquitz Pines, the camp of the Los Angeles Christian Endeavor Union, the past summer, according to announcement made by Dr. Roy E. Creighton, executive secretary of the Union. This was the largest attendance since the conferences were started in 1931.

At the conferences 1,177 young people signed cards making 5,085 different decisions. A total of 312 made acceptance of Christ and 257 indicated their desire to join a church. Those who signed to be Quiet Hour Comrades were 827 and those becoming Tenth Legion members were 635. Two hundred and fifty-three signed as Life-Work Recruits.

Several new buildings, including a new recreation hall, store and infirmary, were placed in use this summer.

Heads Church Conference

Clarence Rogers, citizenship superintendent of West Virginia Christian Endeavor Union, has been elected president of the General Conference of The Seventh Day Baptist Church. Mr. Rogers, who lives in Salem and practices law in Clarksburg, has served as vice-president and editor of the West Virginia Union. He is choir director and Sabbath School teacher in this local church. Christian Endeavor is the youth organization of the Seventh Day Baptist Denomination.

Leaders Meet At Columbus

The annual meeting of the Program Council of the International Society and the Christian Endeavor Executives' Conference will be held in Columbus, Ohio, December 3-6. Russell Gowdey is president of the Conference and Paul F. Hurley is head of the Council.

LONG-TIMERS DINE

More than 350 attended the annual banquet of the Long-Timers Association of the Philadelphia Christian Endeavor Union September 30 with Norman Klauder presiding. John Harper was elected the new president.

C. E. WEEK PACKETS

Material to help you celebrate Christian Endeavor Week January 30-February 6, 1955 is now available. The packets, which are $.50 each, contain a manual, radio and television presentation, worship service, banquet and party plans, and many other useful pieces of literature. Secure your packet from International Society of Christian Endeavor 1221 East Broad Street, Columbus 16, Ohio.

Columbus Gets Set For Convention

Ohio's Capital City Prepares For Big Gathering of North American Youth July 11-16 Plan Registration Campaigns

COLUMBUS LEADERS—Members of the Executive Committee of the unit that is preparing for the International Convention in Ohio's Capital City, July 11-16 are pictured as follows: First row (left to right)—R. Owen Harrison, treasurer; Robert S. Hildreth, associate chairman; Phyllis Rike, secretary; and Nevin J. Rodes, vice-chairman (public relations). Second row—Gerald H. Vincent, vice-chairman (hospitality); Robert F. Hildreth, president, Franklin County; Rev. Clair E. Beatty, vice-chairman (registrations); Mrs. R. Owen Harrison, vice-chairman (finance); Harold E. Westerhoff, administrative secretary, International Society, and S. Ezra McCulloh, vice-chairman (halls). Dr. J. Gordon Howard, chairman; Norman E. Brown, president, Ohio Union, and Dr. Gene Stone, general secretary, International Society, were not present when picture was taken. Photo by Charles Stokes.

Columbus, Ohio, is getting in readiness to entertain youth of North America.

Preparations are being made for the 43rd International Christian Endeavor Convention to be held in Ohio's Capital City July 11-16, 1955. It is expected that more than 4,000 will attend the sessions.

Dr. Howard Heads Committee

A committee, headed by Dr. J. Gordon Howard, president of Otterbein College, Westerville, Ohio, is busy on local arrangements. A unit of International Society with Rev. J. Wesley Siebert president of the Canadian C.E. Union, as chairman, is planning the program.

Robert S. Hildreth of Columbus, former president of Ohio Union, is associate chairman of the planning committee in the city where the International Society headquarters is located. Vice-chairmen are Rev. Clair E. Beatty, Mrs. R. Owen Harrison, S. Ezra McCulloh, Nevin J. Rodes, and Gerald H. Vincent. R. Owen Harrison is treasurer with Phyllis I. Rike as secretary. Robert F. Hildreth is president of Franklin County Union (where Columbus is located) and Norman E. Brown is head of the Ohio State Union.

Headquarters Hotel will be the Deshler-Hilton, which has recently been refurnished at a cost of $2,500,000.

Capital University in Columbus, which is an institution of the American Lutheran Church, will be the scene of the morning sessions, Tuesday through Saturday. The quiet hour services, conferences and general morning sessions will all be held in the university buildings. Evening mass meetings will be in Memorial Hall, which seats over 3, 500.

The convention banquet is scheduled for the new and beautiful Student Union of the Ohio State University. Dormitories at Capital University will be used by teen-age delegates.

The convention will open Monday evening, July 11, and close with the mass meeting Saturday, July 16. Besides the classes and other morning features there will be denominational meetings, luncheon of various kinds, reactional activities and sight-seeing tours. A program is planned for Junior leaders each morning with a Junior convention Saturday.

Plan Registration Campaign

A registration campaign for Endeavorers in North America outside of the State of Ohio will be started after the first of January. State and provincial unions will vie for honors. Many registrars have already been appointed to urge youth to sign-up and come to Columbus. Registrations are $3.00. If desired individuals may pay $1.00 of the registration in advance and the balance when they come to the convention.

6,000 ATTEND GERMAN CONVENTION

Fifty youth from behind the Iron Curtain were among the thousands who crowded the two large tents where annual sessions of the German Christian Endeavor Union were held in Herford in August. Rev. Arno Pagel, president of the Union and a vice-president of the World's C.E. Union, gave a report of the convention held in Washington, D. C. A speaker from Japan and one from Lebanon (shown at right) told of the mission field in their countries. A view in one of the tents is shown at left.

These Young Adults!

Who Are They?

What Do They Need?

How Do They Get Started?

EDITOR'S NOTE — *This month's Workshop quotes from the new book, "With Young Adults In Christian Endeavor," written by Phyllis G. Brown and Bert H. Davis. This publication will shortly be off the press and will give information about organizing and carrying out Young Adult programs together with topic suggestions. It can be secured through International Society.*

Who Are These Young Adults?

Young adults have been with us all the time, but only in recent years have their particular age-group needs been recognized by the church. And since Christian Endeavor has an age group for all, young adults have come into their own in this pioneer youth movement. Like all Christian Endeavor groups, the age limit is flexible, depending upon circumstances within the local church, but young adults are usually those young men and women between the ages of 24 and 35, and some would push it to 40, "where life begins." But because it is difficult to hold rigidly to any chronological age limit, some say one is definitely a young adult if he has —

Finished school
Married
Become self-supporting
Left his parental home
Reached voting age
Served in the armed forces

By such definitions, one in every four persons in your community is a young adult. What an opportunity to join those of like interests and experiences in worship, mature problem solving, active service, and fellowship!

"To assume that this relative and ambiguous term 'young adults' applies to all young men and women between certain ages, or with a specific material status, or upon any particular educational level, only creates confusion. Young adults have only one characteristic in common — they are young at the business of being adults."[1]

What Do They Need?

"Young adults have special and specific needs which must be met on their own level of experience. They need a sense of going on to something larger. They seek a purpose in life and they need the church to help make that purpose Christian. They are choosing life partners and need the fellowship, friendship, and guidance that the church can give. They need wholesome recreation and elevating fellowship and entertainment. They are making new homes and are beginning to rear families. Here, too, the church has a contribution to make. They need to engage in Christian action, in order that their religious lives may deepen. They need above all else a sense of belonging, a sense of vital Christian fellowship with each other and with Christ. They need to be geared into the life and work of the Church as a part of its adult program."[2]

Many of these needs can be met when young adults meet together in groups on Sunday morning, Sunday evening, or during the week to seek the aims of the church in the lives of their people. Through study and worship, they develop their own spiritual lives as maturing Christians, arrive at changed attitudes toward God and fellow men, find places of service for their talents and abilities within the church, establish Christian homes, and become an influence in the community.

How Do They Get Started?

For Endeavorers trained in Junior, Intermediate, and Young People's societies, the Young Adult Group is the next step in the sound development of their Christian life, as they reach the point of full leadership in the church for which they have been in training through the years of their physical and spiritual growth. Others who have attained the years without this background experience can learn by doing. But should there not be a Young Adult society already organized, how do we go about it? There is no one way, but some suggestions may help. Are you concerned enough to do something about it? Are there two or three others who share your interest? Three or four of you might well consult with your pastor concerning the needs of young adults and survey the home church, listing prospective members. Your Sunday school superintendent and the superintendent of the Adult Department could also help in making this list. Perhaps it would be best for the pastor to call the group together—at an informal meeting in his home, or the home of one of the group, or an attractive room in the church.

Young Adult Workshop

Then get into action. Supplement the pastor's "official call" by *talking up* this first meeting. Divide the list of prospects among the three or four interested young adults and see that each receives a telephone call or letter, radiating enthusiasm for the meeting.

Two interested couples could make a start by each inviting another couple, and so continue to enlarge the group. A survey of the congregation would result in a calling-list of eligible couples within the age limits set, with a follow-up by telephone, poster, and church bulletin invitations. Two couples could be responsible for arranging the programs each month. A baby-sitting service could be started among the teenagers of the church, to make it possible for both parents to attend the meetings.

Interest in a particular study or book review could be the starting point in getting together a young adult group.

Remember in starting a Young Adult society to get *real leaders,* those of high Christian character and initiative whom others will follow. Remember, too, that a *group tends to stay the way it starts* so if you want a mixed group, be sure that both married and single young adults attend the first meeting. If you start with married couples only, it will be difficult to interest the single ones later on, or vice-versa, And do not freeze the pattern of your group too quickly by writing a constitution at the second or third meeting. Drafting of a constitution may come later, perhaps in about six months, when members have learned the fundamentals of Christian Endeavor.

That First Meeting

In arranging for the first meeting —

- Make certain that every young adult in the church and every prospective young adult in the community receives a personal and urgent invitation to come.
- Tell them the purpose of the meeting.
- Select a time and place which will encourage the largest attendance such as (1) in the Sunday school during the hour, or (2) at the church after the prayer meeting, or (3) Sunday afternoon or evening at the church or in a home, or (4) any week night in a home or at the church.

At this first meeting, give everyone an opportunity to become acquainted. Take time to know one another better. Let all talk together about the need and possibilities of a Young Adult Christian Endeavor Society in the church, proposing a plan of organization. Present the proposed society in such a way as to lead the group naturally to decide to organize. Stimulate the young adults to initiate more definite plans, determining the type of group (mixed, married, or single), setting the time and place for the next meeting, and appointing a nominating committee. Election of officers and formation of the permanent organization could take place at the next meeting. education.

1 The Church and Its Young Adults by J. Gordon Chamberlin
2 Young Adults — Here's How! by Joint Committee on Adult Work, Presbyterian Church, U. S.

Via The Eye And Ear

Audio-Visual Symbols of Our Faith

by Amy Deck Faust

A picture, object, or symbol is only as meaningful as our understanding. Protestants have a rich heritage of religious art, but so limited is our education that frequently the meaning of our faith is obscured, even when visible before us.

The Puritan influence in early Protestantism tended to cut the Christian faith away from religious art. In this movement even great church music lost its rightful place. The drama, church organs, stained glass windows, and almost all art forms were placed outside the house of worship. The Puritans made many remarkable contributions to our faith, but it was an error to cut drama, music, and art from the lifestream of the church.

Religious drama and art have been slow in coming into the rightful place in our life. Art exists in most of our churches, but sometimes it is a corrupted, or poor form of art. More often it is good work, but not understood by those who should see and understand. The prophets of old regretted that some of their worshipers had, "Eyes to see, but they see not." It should not be true of us. We have eyes. We have many meaningful things to instruct the mind through the eyes. One of the richest sources of such instruction lies in the symbolism of the church. Let us see and be instructed.

The Cross

The most common of our art forms is, of course, the Christian cross. As we near the Lenten season it would be appropriate to spend time in studying the various forms and meanings of the cross. There are many types of cross and each has its own meaning. That is why we can learn so much from a study of the cross.

Then there are the symbols of God, the Trinity, the Holy Spirit, and the various special days. There are symbols representing the life, work, and martyrdom of the various apostles. We have symbols of the church and the various works of the church. Then, each local church may have a local symbolism that tells something in windows, painting, carving, engraving, or embroidery.

None of us should be content to sit in the church and never discover what the windows of the local church mean. We should know the symbolism in any letters or monograms used on Bible markers. Even the colors of church decoration have meaning for the year, if properly used. Such seasons as Advent, Epiphany, Lent, Pentecost, and other sacred time have symbols and the symbolism of colors.

Let us check briefly through a few of the colors and symbols of the Christmas and Epiphany season. Red, white, purple, and gold are frequently used in hangings, vestments, or special decorations but the true color of the Christmas season is white. This color should remind us of the pure love of God.

Christmas Symbols

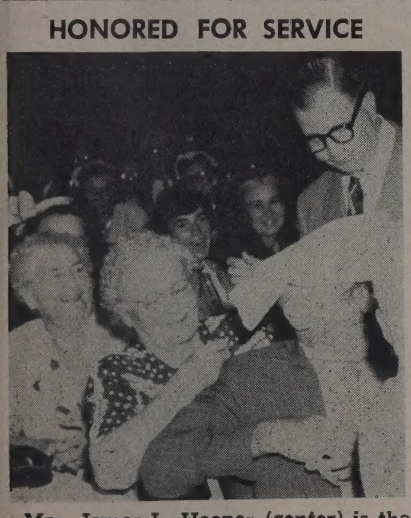
One of the most beautiful of the Christmas symbols is the Messianic rose. This flower in legend, art, and from old prophecy is related to the Saviour's birth. Our modern carnation derives its meaning from flesh, and is sometimes used to represent God, in the flesh. Gladioli are also representatives of the incarnation. Lilies are symbols of the Virgin.

Sometimes an apple is used to represent the incarnation, as God removed the curse of man's sin in Christ. A scallop, or shell often represents the infant Christ, and of course, swaddling clothes, the three gifts of the Magi, a gold crown, or the star would represent the various meanings of Christmas and Epiphany. The entire Advent season is rich with beautiful symbolism.

In black or white, or in color, slides and filmstrips can be purchased with accompanying manuals. The filmstrips are less costly than the slides, but it is possible to purchase slides that carry the exact symbols of most of the common church art forms. Both symbols and monograms have meaning only as we understand. The slide or filmstrip greatly increases understanding. Consult the Audio-Visual Resource Guide for such helps as *Christian Symbolism* ($3.) *Church Symbolism* (65 color slides, $1. rental, $39. purchase). *Symphonies in Stone* (B7W 16mm films, rent $12.).

Books such as "Christ and the Fine Arts" (C. P. Maus) have rich art helps, but the best of the books on symbolism is *Church Symbolism* by F. R. Webber ($7.). Smaller volumes in the field are available and the local history of the church would be valuable. Local camera groups may also help in making an interpretation of the church.

HONORED FOR SERVICE



Mrs. James L. Hooper (center) is the subject of a "This Is Your Life" presentation at banquet during the 64th anniversary convention of Maryland Union at Goucher College. Mrs. Hooper has worked in Christian Endeavor for a long period of time. Standing is Arch J. McQuilkin, former vice-president of International Society, who was toastmaster.

Citizenship

Youth Send Entries To Columbus For Contest With Awards Totaling $1,000

The fourth annual Christian Citizenship Contest of Christian Endeavor is on.

Youth may send their notification of participation to the International Society of Christian Endeavor at Columbus, Ohio any time. The last date for mailing this is February 7, 1955. Awards totaling $1,000 with two all-expense paid trips to the 43rd International Convention in Columbus July 11-16, 1955 are being offered.

Winners will be decided on the merits of "A Letter To My Congressman" or for Canadian youth "A Letter To My M.P." on the subject "I Speak For Christian Citizenship" and a service record of the citizenship actiivties of the individual. These must be in the hands of the state or provincial judge by March 1.

Sharon Van't Kerkhoff of Phoenix, Arizona, was the first youth to send a notice of participating to Columbus.

Leaflets giving detailed information may be secured through state or provincial C.E. Unions or the Internatonal Society.

NOTIFICATION OF PARTICIPATION

(Request for official entry blanks)

Christian Endeavor Christian Citizenship Award Contest

(Valid only if postmarked no later than February 7, 1955)

Christian Citizenship Director
International Society of Christian Endeavor
1221 East Broad Street
Columbus 16, Ohio

I hereby enter the CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR CHRISTIAN CITIZENSHIP AWARD CONTEST ..... ☐

Please send me the official entry blanks and other information. .... ☐

I have requested official entry blanks from my state or provincial Christian Endeavor Union office ..... ☐

(Please check above statements)

Name .....
(Please Print)

Street and Number .....

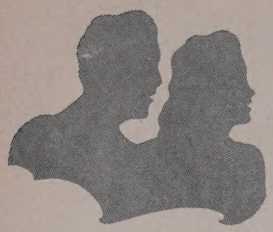
City and State .....

Local Church .....
(Denomination)

Date of Birth .....

☐ I agree to observe the rules and conditions outlined above.

.....
Signature of Applicant



Senior-Young People

— JANUARY 2 —

Comments by Earle W. Gates

Why The Commandments?

First Topic in a Series on "The Commandments Then and Now"

Galatians 3:15-24

Bible Readings

M., Dec. 27. Believe In God's Promises. Romans 4:18-22.
T., Dec. 28. The Duty of Man. Eccles. 12:13,14.
W., Dec. 29. Keep My Commandments. Prov. 7:1-5.
T., Dec. 30. Abiding In Christ. John 15:1-14.
F., Dec. 31. Dead To The Law. Romans 7:4-6;8:2.
S., Jan. 1. One In Christ Gal. 3:26-29.
Sun., Jan. 2. Topic—Why the Commandments? Galatians 3:15-24.

Pattern For The Meeting

The leader of this meeting should make careful preparation for its success by these steps:
Pray for God's blessing and help.
Study the Bible selections given.
Read the following material, then add his own thoughts, experiences, and other illustrations.
Plan a brief Leader's Talk to make clear the purpose of the meeting.

The next four topics will be of special interest and value if they are well prepared and presented. They will be in a unit entitled *The Commandments Then and Now.* Today's topic *Why The Commandments?* begins to lay the foundations for the ones to follow. It establishes the claim God has on our lives, while it declares the authority of Divine Law. It will be well to have some of the most capable leaders for this series, and it might be better to have *one* who is experienced in the leadership of meetings conduct all of these four. One different leader could assist in each separate meeting. Perhaps the counsellor or president could be the one to so keep the continuity.

Some special thought should be given to the Commandments and additional reading done in preparation. Study all the Scripture passages possible, especially Exodus 20 and today's lesson. The Devotional Committee and counsellor should meet with each leader to help prepare the meetings to come. Seek such help now. In all, try to fix firmly in the minds of the society members the idea that God *has* a Way of Life for His children. Assure them that He has the *right* to require obedience, and the *power* to enforce it.

Aim of The Topic

1. **To review the Commandments of God.**
2. **To compare past and present in their observance.**
3. **To learn why God has given us these Commandments.**

Why The Commandments?

This question, the very heart of the topic, is a good place to begin. Why indeed do we have the Ten Commandments? In an age of independence that questions authority this may well be the question in the minds of countless young people. Any answer must be fair and positive.

First of all, the Commandments represent the Law of God for men. They have definite requirements in themselves but beyond that they symbolize the very authority of the Holy Scriptures in the affairs of mankind. Divine laws establish the Kingdom of God and define its requirements. By this means, we find the rules of eligibility for citizenship in this Kingdom. In all areas of government, human or divine, laws are essential to the proper operation of the system. In the case of Divine Law, it is thus possible for God to define duty, to make clear the responsibilities of His people. In doing this, the promise is made of rewards or punishment, according to the degree of obedience given. "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness." (II Timothy 3: 16). The Word of God represents the Law of God.

The Commandments Then

When the Ten Commandments were given to mankind, God used Moses as His chosen agent. During the travels of the people of Israel on their way to the Promised Land the need for a more definite set of regulations became apparent. The Heavenly Father realized that man in his human frailty and weakness needed simple laws to define his duties. "Thou shalt" and "Thou shalt not" are the most simple and direct instructions known. Hence God called Moses to the top of Mt. Sinai for a meeting that was to change the world forever after. Here He gave His servant the tablets of stone that carried the written, specific laws of conduct that we have since known as the Ten Commandments. These Moses conveyed to the Israelites as a divine standard of conduct in righteousness. In a larger sense he was transmitting it to the whole world, to all ages, for nothing has since exceeded these laws. They were the final word of the law of God in the Old Testament; they have been re-affirmed many times in the New Testament. Jesus acknowledged them, obeyed them, and finally fulfilled them. He went a step further and gave a New Commandment, upon which we will specifically look in the topic for January 23. The Decalogue, as they are known, was the law for God's people. By them the chosen ones were saved from self-destruction.

The Commandments Now

Mankind has changed but little since the time of Moses, though the times have changed. Man's nature remains the same, even though he has transformed his environment, his ways, and his potentials. When God gave the Decalogue to His people to guide them in the ways of righteousness He recognized their need. That need remains today and the Commandments are still the Law of God to determine our conduct. Moral standards may change from age to age, but the basic laws of God do not. Right remains right forever—and wrong is forever wrong!

Young people often ask, "Is it a sin to do this or that?" The world replies "Let your conscience be your guide." The world may further reason, "What's wrong for your neighbor may be right for you," or "It all depends on the circumstances, or on your environment," etc., etc. These are standards set by man and they are false standards. God has a standard of truth which is embodied in the Ten Commandments. This standard never changes and is forever the means of social respectability as well as of divine blessing.

Whatever law comes from God must necessarily contain inviolable principles of action which include every phase of our relationship with God and man. Originally God's laws were given as principles to prevent the hearts from sin, and to prepare the minds for Christ. But now Christ has come! Again, we may ask, "Then are these laws still applicable to us in this age of Grace?" Of course they are. Paul says (in the New Testament, remember), that they are our Schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ (Galatians 3: 24). Thus they also provide the basic standard for Christian living, as fulfilled in Christ. They are the law of God, plus an example of conduct, plus a standard of judgment in righteousness, plus a warning against the assured punishment of a just God. How greatly valuable they are today! Let us urge our every friend to apply the principles of the Commandments in everyday life. This brings victory now, and eternal joy forever. Truly it has been said, "No man breaks the Commandments; the Commandments break the man."

FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION

1. What is the meaning of the quotation at the close of the topic material?
2. Why do we have the Ten Commandments?
3. Does God have a right to tell us how to live? Why?
4. Why were the Commandments needed?
5. Are they needed today? In what areas?
6. Do you think the Commandments are fair laws?
7. How are our civil laws related to the laws of God?
8. Is there anything wrong with the statement, "Let your conscience be your guide?"
9. Can you name any sin not covered by the Ten Commandments?
10. Give the main thought of each Commandment from memory. What does it mean?

A SEED THOUGHT

"The law discovers the disease; the Gospel gives the remedy."—Martin Luther.

Keep Spiritually Healthy

First Topic in a Series on "Personally Speaking"

I Corinthians 3:16, 17; 6:19, 20

Intermediate

— JANUARY 2 —

Comments by Raymond M. Veh

Our Aims

1. To see the value of a healthy spiritual state of being.
2. To discover what helps make spiritual health.
3. To stress Comrades of the Quiet Hour.

We Start with a Clean Page

Our body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, the very habitation of God. Our body is also the home of the soul and the medium of service. Read Romans 6:13.

One day two ministers were walking along a busy street when one noticed in a tailor shop a suit of clothing with sign which said, "Slightly soiled, greatly reduced in price."

"What a splendid text to use for a message to young people," said the one to the other.

How easy it is to get soiled by seeing the vulgar, reading a coarse book, allowing ourselves a little indulgence in dishonest or lustful thinking. Once soiled we are greatly reduced in price; our charm and strength and purity are gone.

Sin comes easily into the life that does not keep spiritually fit. All our lives we must be on guard against temptation. Thus we have the necessity to discipline our bodies and minds as Jesus called his followers to do. The soul needs fresh air, sunshine, proper food, just as does the body.

Aids to Keeping Spiritually Healthy

1. *Worship.* One of our greatest obstacles to worship is busy-ness. We are so busy running around doing things that we just can't take time to worship. We have so many demands upon our time, many of them unexamined as to relative value. Noise is also a hindrance to worship, "Be still, and know that I am God" is too often a foreign phrase to us. "I can't study without the radio" is a current expression among youth. Most of our homes are located close to busy thoroughfares where we have the constant din of traffic. Some are not satisfied without a pleasant buzz of conversation. Can we be "still" in the twentieth century?

True worship makes us part of the company of Christians which embraces the whole earth. This is a wonderful privilege. Put worship into your schedule as a "must."

Many young people, even adults, say, "I am not sure that I have actually had a worship experience." Is it possible to attend church each Sunday and not have a worship experience?

A senior said, "I know that prayer is real, because when I stopped it at the end of my freshman year I collapsed and went to pieces in every conceivable way." Why did he stop? Because he was unwilling to pay the price.

Henry Drummond used to say that ten minutes spent in God's presence every morning will make the whole of life different.

Share experiences of worship with the members of your group. There is value in having each relate an experience in which God seemed very close to him.

2. *Prayer.* Is it possible for persons to spend much time in prayer and still not experience meaningful prayer?

If we are to be in contact with God daily we must explore the realm of silence. Be alone for fifteen minutes or a half-hour every day. Break away from the strain of too much busy-ness. Practice meditation.

Four steps in a true experience of worship are found in the first eight verses of the sixth chapter of Isaiah:

A. The vision of God

B. The acknowledgment of personal sin

C. The release of God's forgiveness and cleansing

D. The act of self-giving

3. *The Bible.* The Bible can be a constant source of strength if we know how to use it. It may be read in a variety of ways. Many persons like to read selected portions of the Scriptures pertaining to a definite and continuous theme. Guidance for this reading can be found in devotional booklets containing comments concerning the scripture which is to be read. The comments furnish the basis for helpful meditation and for application of the scripture read to the experiences of life.

Many passages in the Bible will take on new meaning and new significance if they are read in the spirit of careful meditation.

A young man was reading the 15th chapter of John when his attention was suddenly held by the 16th verse. Although he had read it often before, there seemed to be a particular meaning for him this time in the words of Jesus: "You have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that you should go and bear fruit." He later stated that the words seemed to have a definite reference to him and that his life was girded from that time by the thought that Christ had chosen him and appointed him to do some definite work.

4. *Devotional Books.* "Except for a living man, there is nothing more wonderful than a book," says Charles Kingsley.

What do we want books to do for us? So many excellent books are available that we cannot afford to let any one of our needs go unheeded. As we read inspirational books, religion will become more real to us. Dean Inge says, "If we spend 16 hours a day dealing with tangible things and five minutes a day trying to find God, it is no wonder that the tangible things of this world are 200 times as real to us as God."

5. *Keep Pure.* (Read I Timothy 4:12; Proverbs 1:10; 4:23). *Youth's Christian Companion* says: "In knowledge of sex there are two extremes: too much and too early; too little and too late. This latter may be fatal. Impurity is often the result of ignorance and false modesty. The sexual impulses are natural, and we need to know how to control them. Read Proverbs 7. 'My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge' (Hosea 4:6). Ignorance does not produce purity.

"Purity requires discipline throughout life. It means filling our minds with that which is good and true and holy and pure so that there is no room for impure thoughts to lodge."

6. *Doing Acts of Service.* Ours is an age of faith in mechanics, in machines, and the wonders of modern inventions. This faith requires a corresponding action, or we cannot enjoy the use and blessing which modern inventions offer us. We prove the purity of our thoughts and motives by our actions. An intellectual consent to the truths of Christianity is valueless unless there be truth in the inward parts which results in good works in the outward life.

Keep the Quiet Hour

This year 1955 will bring storms and you will need spiritual undergirding. Enroll as a Comrade of the Quiet Hour. (This would be a good meeting to present this fellowship). Here are steps in observing the Quiet Hour:

1. *Physical relaxation and calmness of mind.* Learn to drop all physical and mental tension in the Quiet Hour. This does not mean slouchiness and lassitude. It means alertness without stiffness, poise without rigidity. Make yourself realize that for at least fifteen minutes there is no need for rush and dash.

2. *Survey life's needs.* See the whole panorama of life. Be honest in evaluating life's experiences. Admit your shortcomings and sins as well as your joys and victories. Out of this survey will arise a sense of need and you are ready for the next step.

3. *Seek more light and more power.* We may have more light on life's pathway, more power to keep climbing. We can talk with God. We can find guidance in His Book. We can think things over. We are changed for the better inside. We are ready to renew the crusade to change things for the better in the world round about.

From God's Word

M., Dec. 27. Live By Faith. Hebrews 11:1, 2.

T., Dec. 28. The Indwelling Christ. I John 3:23, 24.

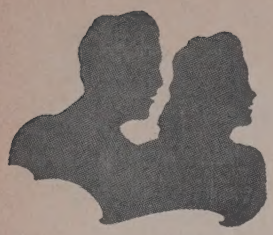
W., Dec. 29. Protect Your Influence. I Cor. 8:9-13.

T., Dec. 30. Practice The Golden Rule. Luke 6:31.

F., Dec. 31. Wisdom Not Enough. Luke 2:52.

S., Jan. 1. Take Heed. Rev. 1:3.

Sun., Jan. 2. Topic—Keep Spiritually Healthy. I Cor. 3:16, 17; 6:19, 20.



Senior-Young People

We Study Commandments 1-4

Second Topic in a Series on "The Commandments Then and Now"

Exodus 20:1-11

— JANUARY 9 —

Comments by Earle W. Gates

Pattern For The Meeting

The leader of this meeting should make careful preparation for its success by these steps:
Pray for God's blessing and help.
Study the Bible selections given.
Read the following material, then add his own thoughts, experiences, and other illustrations.
Plan a brief Leader's Talk to make clear the purpose of the meeting.

The leader should read last week's topic for background and to carry along the thought of it. The purpose of this series of four topics *The Commandments Then and Now* is to give a better total picture of the Commandments. Last week the question of why have commandments was answered. Today begins the actual study of the laws themselves. It will be an interesting and helpful experience if sufficient preparation is made. These topics will probably change considerably the attitude of your young people toward the authority of God and His laws. Be aware that lasting impressions may be made; prepare the topic with prayer and personal research. Seek the help of the pastor or some of your better Bible teachers. Study the Scripture passages given. In addition, try to do some additional reading. This is a subject of deep personal concern for each one.

Special publicity should be given to this series of meetings. Invitations may be issued to additional young people and it may be announced from the pulpit. Decorations and posters will help. Perhaps some one could make posters representing the two stone tablets containing the Commandments, to be used as a Worship Center in the meeting room, both this week and next. Small bookmarks showing the Commandments could be purchased or made, and distributed to those present. In all strive to bring emphasis to the matter of our response to these Divine Laws. The focus of this meeting should be on our duties toward God, while next week the emphasis will be on our duty towards our neighbor.

FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION

1. Why do we have the Ten Commandments?
2. Is any other law more important? What law?
3. What was the source of these Commandments?
4. Name each of the first four Commandments, or read them carefully from Exodus 20. What is the lesson of each?
5. What is our chief aim in life?
6. What should be our relationship with God?
7. Discuss the difference between Commandments 1 through 4 and 5 through 10.

Aim of The Topic

1. To review the Commandments of God.
2. To compare past and present in their observance.
3. To consider anew our duty to God.

Why The Commandments

The Ten Commandments are known as the Decalogue and represent the law of God for His people Israel. They are the moral law for all the people of God. Decalogue is the name by which the Greek fathers designated the Ten Commandments which were given to Moses by God on Mt. Sinai. In Hebrew the name of this Divine Law is "Ten Words." These Commandments were written upon two slabs of stone. They are said to have been written by the finger of God, an expression which always implies an immediate act of the Diety. (Deuteronomy 9: 10). The Decalogue is recorded in Exodus 20 and is a summary of the moral code for the children of God. It is alluded to at least five times in the New Testament, there being called commandments.

The Commandments Then

The circumstances of these precepts being called the "ten words" has doubtless led to the belief that the two tablets contained exactly five laws on each. This is only partially true, for the length of each one is different. The general truth is that they are divided into two sections, the first portion referring to our duty to God. The second part is an expression of our duty to man. This particular topic suggests that the first four are the first division, with the last six being directed to our humanitarian duties (to be studied next Sunday). Other authorities divide them five and five. Those who do this usually divide the First Commandment into two. They then combine our ninth and tenth into a single one. Ten is considered the most perfect of numbers and such a division seems ideal to those of this school of philosophy. Some denominational teachings differ in the order of the Commandments in relation to the verses of Exodus 20.

The Commandments Now

1. The First Commandment (Exodus 20: 3) is a definite statement of God's requirement for an undivided allegiance. "No other gods" is a strict command for monotheism. Our God is one God; He demands our worship, our love, our best.

What "other gods" are worshipped today?

2. The Second Commandment is like the first, going further in definite requirement. We are told there the specific prohibitions against "graven images or any likeness," etc. God declares Himself to be a jealous God and clearly states punishment for offending Him.

What "images" or "likenesses" do people set up for worship today?

3. The Third Commandment is a stern word of instruction, coupled with a grim warning. It forbids any use of the names of God in vain. "The Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh His name in vain." How loosely is this word of God handled. It is a blasphemy, it is irreverence, it is sheer mockery, to curse, and so to bring disrespect to our Lord's Name. Is it not significant that God placed this requirement alongside the laws forbidding murder and theft? How important He must consider it!

Why do young people take God's name in vain? How can it be overcome?

4. The Fourth Commandment is one that is taken much too lightly today. "Remember the Sabbath Day, to keep it holy—." Truly men steal time that belongs to God. In our present culture, everything but the earning of one's daily bread is relegated to the Lord's Day—and even work is too frequently required on that day. Employers need to reconsider this Commandment in establishing the schedule of their production and service. Employes should prayerfully search their hearts to determine if a job that requires it is worthy of a Christian. Everyone must, if he is to please God, revise his weekly time budget so that God's Day may be used for God's purposes. Tithing our time is as important as tithing our money.

How can we keep the Sabbath Day "holy"? How do we dishonor God on His Day?

As we study Commandments 1-4 it seems appropriate that our relation to God is covered first. In reviewing each one of these Laws the basic principle implied should be brought to the fore, in order to guide Christian youth in their attitudes and actions toward God. As we have seen the First Commandment has to do with religion directly or our *belief* in God. The second deals with our *attitude* in worship and our practice. The third is concerned with the *revelation* of our concept of the person of God. Finally, the fourth calls for our *dedication* of all to God, including our time, or the Sabbath. Let these lessons bring forth vital themes for our daily living. They should include (a) the person and attributes of God, (b) true worship, (c) reverence for God, (d) complete dedication to God. The first division of the Decalogue should bring us marvelously close to our Lord and Master.

A SEED THOUGHT

"The chief end of man is to glorify God, and to enjoy Him forever."

From The Book of Books

M., Jan. 3. Worship God Only. Psalm 95:1-6.
T., Jan. 4. Profaning The Day of Rest. Nehemiah 13:15-18.
W., Jan. 5. A Firm Decision. Joshua 24:14-16.
T., Jan. 6. A Refuge And A Fortress. Psalm 91:1, 2.
F., Jan. 7. Idolatry Forbidden. Deut. 4:15-19.
S., Jan. 8. The Creation of Man. Genesis 2:26, 27.
Sun., Jan. 9. Topic—We Study Commandments 1-4. Exodus 20:1-11.

Should Christian Young People Study On Sunday?

Second Topic in a Series on "Personally Speaking"

Exodus 20:8; Jeremiah 17:19-27

Our Aims

1. To consider what Sunday studying does to us.
2. To treat the whole matter of Sunday observance.
3. To discover how to make the best possible use of time.

Panel Discussion

Select three teenagers and three parents representing as many families as possible. Start discussion on Sunday studying. Enlarge the question to "What Shall We Do with Our Sundays?" It would be well to have the panel members meet in advance to think through the problems.

Consecrating Our School Life

What we get out of a thing always depends upon what we put into it. This is a universal law in the realms of nature and of grace. Christ expressed this law in these words, "Except a grain of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone; but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit." Success means sacrifice. A little boy being assured by his mother that it was God who made the flowers grow, asked, "Why doesn't he make some grow in our yard?" God only makes flowers grow where the soil is prepared and the flower is planted, where the conditions of growth are complied with.

So whatever is gotten out of any school year by anybody will depend upon what is put into it. Buildings, books, and teachers cannot educate nor produce an education. They only furnish the opportunity for an education, which those who would learn must seize and improve. "Opportunity knocks at the door, but never kicks down the panels" is a terse way of stating the same truth.

We need quickly to learn how to study. Make use of spare moments on week days to study. Plan your life and learn how to make the best possible use of time during school hours and weekends.

The Lord's Gift

We ought to remember that the Lord's Day is God's gift to man; that it was given, not for the benefit of God, but for the benefit of ourselves. It meets human need. In this the commandment, "Remember the sabbath day," is like every other of the Ten Commandments in that not one of them is for God's benefit; all are for ours.

The glory of the Lord's Day is the fact that it is the *Lord's Day*. It belongs to Him. He is Lord of the Sabbath. The Christian may not be legally bound to observe it in any given way, but he is honor bound and conscience bound to observe it in a manner which will be pleasing unto Him.

The Christian's conduct on the Lord's Day must be determined at this very point. Is it right to do certain things, to go certain places, to perform certain tasks, to operate certain businesses, to study on Sunday? Here is the Christian's answer: "Will this be pleasing to the Lord? It is His day. We have no right to use it in any way which would displease Him."

And if we give unto the Lord His day, there are so many enriching experiences which may be ours—attending the services in His churches, being feet and hands and ears and tongues for Him, standing where He would stand, doing what He would do, saying what He would say for those who need Him and whose hearts are hungering for Him.

Why Avoid Study on Sunday?

The Sabbath is a Day of Rest.

The Sabbath is essential to the well-being of man physically. The scientists say that an analysis of the blood shows that in one night's rest only five-sixths of an ounce of oxygen consumed in the day's labor is recovered. At the end of six days, therefore, the man has lost a whole ounce of oxygen. Perhaps prolonged vacations enforced by nervous breakdowns could be avoided by proper observance of the Lord's Day. Have you ever thought that the rest time of fifty-two Sabbaths means almost two months a year?

The Sabbath Is a Day of Worship.

One reason the Sabbath law requires rest is that we might have time for worship. As an acknowledgment that all seven days of the week belong to God, we set aside one day for fellowship with our God. Is it hard for the Christian who loves God with all his time, talents, and possessions to observe the Sabbath law? No, the Christian who works beside the man of this world anticipates the coming of the Lord's Day, that he may join in the fellowship of "the holy convocation."

Do we young Endeavorers know how to worship on the Lord's Day? One could sing *Amazing Grace* in the choir and at the same time carry on the labors of the office, shop or home. Multitudes of youth need yet to learn how to worship God through song, prayer and sermon. On Sunday we must learn to halt our mad mental search for activity and revel in the presence of God. Have you ever gone to church tired in body and mind, depleted in strength and faith, and then come away from the service filled, inspired, buoyant, competent for the battles of life? That is worship, an experience we ought to know weekly.

The Sabbath Is for Service.

The Sabbath is not only a time of cessation of labor and an experience of worship; it is also a day of service. Red-blooded young people do not want to sleep nor go to church all day Sunday. The average youth has four or five hours on Sunday afternoons that, if properly used, can become one of the greatest blessings, or, if improperly used, one of the greatest hindrances to his Christian character.

All Christian young people should set some rules for themselves concerning the details of Sabbath observance. For example, one fine leader decided before she

(Please turn to Page 19, Col. 1)

FOR DISCUSSION

Write out ten pertinent questions on the Sabbath, based on this material, and distribute them to ten persons in your group one week prior to the service. In the service let the leader ask the questions and allow volunteers to answer. Some questions will be:

1. Why did God establish the Sabbath?
2. What happens when individuals forget to observe the Sabbath?
3. What happens when nations are heedless of Sabbath observance?
4. Are there evidences that American people are forgetting the Sabbath?
5. How many of the pupils in your school study on Sunday? In your church group?
6. Is it better to study on Sunday and go to school prepared on Monday, or to keep the Sabbath a day of rest and take chances of getting through Monday's classes?
7. How can we get our study done in six days to leave the one day free for rest and worship?
8. Is Sunday evening better spent in church than doing other things? Explain.
9. Are the present-day problems great enough to demand all church members to carry the torch?
10. How can we get people to become actively engaged in carrying the torch? Explain fully.
11. Give suggestions for youth winning others to Christ in the respective communities.
12. What special need for Christian work exists in your community?

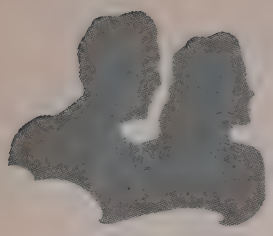
Intermediate

— JANUARY 9 —

Comments by Raymond M. Veh

Scripture Messages

M., Jan. 3. Pleasing God. John 15:8-14.
T., Jan. 4. Slothfulness Reproved. Prov. 6:6-11.
W., Jan. 5. Working With Our Hands. I Thess. 4:11, 12.
T., Jan. 6. Worthy of Our Calling. II Thess. 1:11, 12.
F., Jan. 7. The Work of God. John 6:27-29.
S., Jan. 8. Chosen To Witness. Acts 22:12-15.
Sun., Jan. 9. Topic—Should Christian Young People Study on Sunday? Exodus 20:8; Jeremiah 17:19-27.



Senior-Young People

— JANUARY 16 —

We Study Commandments 5-10

Third Topic in a Series on "The Commandments Then and Now"

Exodus 20:12-17

Comments by Earle W. Gates

Pattern For The Meeting

The leader of this meeting should make careful preparation for its sucess by these steps:
Pray for God's blessing and help.
Study the Bible selections given.
Read the following material, then add his own thoughts, experiences, and other illustrations.
Plan a brief Leader's Talk to make clear the purposes of the meeting.

Today we come to the third topic in a series of four on the subject *The Commandments Then And Now.* This topic, entitled "We Study Commandments 5-10" directs our thought to a careful study of God's Law. Last week we gave special attention to the first four of the Commandments, noting that they relate to our duties toward God. The last six, which form the basis for our lesson today, represent our duty toward our fellow man.

The leader should point out these different emphases and briefly review the past two topics. (Be sure to read them carefully in preparation.) As suggested last week, a better understanding of this important subject will make lasting impression on the minds of your Endeavorers. This meeting could be the turning point of their lives. If posters or cardboard replicas of the "stone tablets" of the Commandments were prepared for last week, use them again. As a worship center, or visual focus, they can be helpful. Study the subject well. and seek help from pastor or teacher if necessary.

Since we are rapidly approaching Christian Endeavor Week, which begins January 30th, special plans should now be under way for an outstanding observance. Check with the society to be sure special youth meetings are planned for Sundays, January 30 and February 6, and that a banquet or other activity is being prepared for that period. Young people may also conduct or share in a church service on one of these days. If there is any local Christian Endeavor Union program available, urge all your members to attend. Do *your* best to make Christian Endeavor Week a huge success.

Bible Portions

M., Jan. 10. The Duty of Children. Eph. 6:1-3.
T., Jan. 11. Truth Promotes Righteousness. Prov. 12:17-19.
W., Jan. 12.. Danger of Lust. Matt. 5:27, 28
T., Jan. 13. Words of Advice. Prov. 4:23-27.
F., Jan. 14. Your Shining Light Matt. 5:14-16.
S., Jan. 15. Doers of The Word. James 1:22-25.
Sun., Jan. 16. Topic—We Study Commandments 5-10. Exodus 20:12-17.

Aim of The Topic

1. To review the Commandments of God.
2. To compare past and present in their observance.
3. To consider anew our duties toward our neighbors.

Why The Commandments?

As we have already learned the Ten Commandments were given to us that God might establish His Kingdom in the hearts and lives of men. Law is necessary for order—and the Kingdom of God is a very orderly and practical thing. The things of the Spirit, as taught by God and Christ, are very much down-to-earth, though they point to Heaven. Foolish people have said that the teachings of the Bible are "not realistic," "impractical," "too idealistic," and that they won't work. Nothing could be further from the truth! God's Kingdom is practical and efficient. It is the way of evil and wickedness, the way of shortsightedness and selfishness, that cannot long endure. So in the matter of the commandments the principles involved therein are permanent and are based on the truth that endures forever. Because these precepts *are* workable and practical, all the civil and criminal laws of man are based upon them. They have been given that men may live as sons of God and as brethren together.

The Commandments Then

The second portion of the Commandments, or Decalogue, that we study today are directed toward our duty to our neighbor. They represent the divine requirement for man's treatment of man. In the day of their origin they were far ahead of the practices of that day. The successful practice of them would transform any society or culture. Based upon the principle that the individual is sacred and that each one has inviolable rights, these Commandments 5 through 10, provide a code of behavior toward each other. Later the teaching ministry of Jesus amplified these laws. He endorsed them all, then greatly enlarged their meaning and scope. He taught the sins of the mind were equal to the sins of the body. They led to the actual commission of the act. Today the developing of right attitudes towards others not only builds self-respect but it is the best insurance against crime, vandalism, gambling, and vice.

The Commandments Now

1. The Fifth Commandment requires that we honor father and mother. This is the first one with a promise of blessing. (Read together this and each one of the laws as given in Exodus 20.) Modern youth needs to give new thought to the "honoring," or respecting and obeying, of parents.

How is this Commandment broken by young people today? Why?

2. The Sixth Commandment is such a positive and brief statement that it needs little explaining. "Thou shalt not kill." Yet in the face of personal hatreds and national warfare this is a requirement that must be faced. The sanctity of human life is involved. What is our decision to be? The decision must be Christian.

In what ways can this law be broken?

3. The Seventh Commandment is one that is directly focussed upon the immorality of our day. It is an indictment of the loose marriage and divorce procedures that prevail. It surely condemns the practices of Hollywood and the "glamor set" of America with their much-publicized immorality. It should throw the searching light of common sense on the "sex-centered" literature, drama, art, and entertainment of our day. Of a certainty it must cause every young person, married or single, to re-affirm the Christian standard of personal sex conduct.

What can youth today do to raise the moral level of entertainment? To improve the national disgrace of divorce?

4. The Eighth Commandment is brief and to the point. The curt order "Thou shalt not steal" covers a multitude of temptations and circumstances. Here the Golden Rule would help in making a decision. Many phases must be considered. Stealing of time from one who is paying for it, depriving of rights and privileges that belong to another, even "robbing" another's character, all these may be infractions of this law. Add others. A recognition of the rights of others is involved here.

What else, besides actually taking an object from someone, can break this law?

5. The Ninth Commandment, "Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor," is a two-edged sword. It may mean only in testimony given in a court of law. Or again, it could apply to the popular and devil-filled practice of gossip. To spread false rumors about a person

(Please turn to Page 19, Col. 1)

FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION

1. Why do we have Divine Commandments?
2. Why is our criminal and civil law based on these Laws of God? Give illustrations of several.
3. What is our duty toward our neighbor?
4. Which half of the Ten Commandments is more important?
5. How does the Golden Rule apply to this topic?
6. How does Jesus' teaching compare with the Commandments?
7. What did Jesus mean in Matthew 22: 36-40?

A SEED THOUGHT

Jesus said, "Love thy neighbor as thyself." Did you ever stop to think of how well our neighbor would be treated if we did this sincerely?

"Speak for Yourself, John"

Third Topic in a Series on "Personally Speaking"

Romans 12:1, 2; Ephesians 5:15-21

Intermediate

— JANUARY 16 —

Comments by Raymond M. Veh

Our Aims

1. To see the necessity of convictions on honesty, purity, trustworthiness.
2. To note where convictions are rooted.
3. To gain courage to express our convictions at all times.

How Do You Regard Sin?

How do you react to evil? One's attitude toward sin is always an index of character. An easy-going, indifferent, compromising attitude toward evil is an index of a morally weak character. In such a person lofty ideals of goodness, of purity, of justice, of honor are wanting. To stand by complacently and look upon evil, on corruption, on foul play, on injustice and not feel righteous indignation and moral resentment rise within, is a sign of moral weakness, not to say degeneracy. A keen sense of right and wrong makes one rise in moral strength and courage to condemn and defy that which is evil, wherever found.

Form Clear-cut Convictions

Youth must be alert and watchful for the very first approach of evil, no matter what its form, be it from within or from without, defy and resist it promptly and uncompromisingly and victory is certain.

There are many forms of evil which we should be prepared to defy and overcome the moment they present themselves. There should be no hesitancy in attack upon all forms of dishonesty in conduct, or of lying speech; all forms of selfishness and greed; impurity of thought, of speech, of conduct; Sabbath desecration; wrong and harmful amusements. Young people should early in life be led to form fixed opinions touching these and other evils. Many other moral problems will present themselves for solution on the instant, with no time for deliberation, but if the broad lines of conduct have been fixed by deliberate choice and have become habitual, these will invariably carry us safely through the new and unexpected temptation. One of the functions of the Christian Endeavor is to establish members in deep and sound convictions touching all forms of conduct.

"Speak for yourself, John"

The topic for this week echoes the familiar words of Priscilla to John Alden of early colonial fame. It is utilized to reveal the age-old desire of people for forthrightness in bespeaking convictions. People never respond to cowardly individuals. They rally to people who stand squarely for the right.

"Say not 'Thy days are evil'—who's to blame?
And fold the hands and acquiesce—O shame!
Stand up, speak out, and bravely, in God's name."

—*M. D. Babcock.*

A Legend

A king many years ago advertised for a safe coachman. Three candidates presented themselves. He asked each one how close he could drive to the precipice with perfect safety. One answered, "Your Majesty, I can drive the most fiery team within three inches of the precipice with perfect safety." The second answered that he could drive within one inch of the precipice with perfect safety. The third answered, "Your Majesty, if you will employ me, I pledge my word that I will drive as far away from the precipice as possible." It is needless to add that the king employed the last man.

Give evil no quarter—remain as far away from the questionable things of life as possible. When compelled to encounter evil—defy it promptly and courageously and victory will be certain.

Strength to Speak Up

David summed up well standing for one's convictions when he said: "The Lord is the strength of my life." (Psalm 27:1). God is not only the Protector of the exposed life, who keeps one from being slain, but he is the strength of a frail, weak, discouraged life, who keeps one from fainting, sinking and dying away. God is the believer's Light, is the strength of his life; not only by whom, but in whom he lives and moves. He gives strength for all times of need. In God therefore let us strengthen ourselves.

Cases to Discuss

1. Your neighbor in the back row of a classroom asks you for a name on a history quiz. He is a good friend of yours and has done you many favors. You know he will fail if he does not get the help. The best thing for you to do is:
   (a) Report him to the teacher.
   (b) Act as if you did not hear.
   (c) Shake your head implying you won't tell him.
   (d) Tell him the answer in a soft whisper.

2. John had promised his parents not to smoke cigarettes. One night he was out at a party where every other boy was smoking. They teased him about not smoking, called him a sissy, and told him he was a poor sport. The best thing for him to do was:
   (a) Smoke now and then when he was out with that crowd but not at other times.
   (b) Explain to his parents that he wanted to take back his promise so he could smoke.
   (c) Go ahead and smoke and think his promise silly anyway.
   (d) Tell the boys that he had promised and he was not going to smoke.

3. Jim's team is up against a tough game tomorrow. He is thinking of praying about the game. The thing for Jim to do is:
   (a) Forget the idea, the subject is not worthy of prayer.
   (b) Pray to win the game tomorrow.
   (c) Not waste his time. It won't do any good anyhow.
   (d) Pray that the best team wins.
   (e) Pray for courage to do his best.

4. Dorothy was angry at Lou for something or some reason that Lou did not understand. Dorothy was sullen and would not explain. Lou apologized for whatever she had done but still Dorothy would not make up. The best thing for Lou to do was:
   (a) Drop Dorothy entirely and not try to be friends with her.
   (b) Ask Dorothy again what the trouble was and offer to apologize again.
   (c) Tell Dorothy what she thought of people who acted silly like that.
   (d) Tell other girls, and get them all to drop Dorothy to teach her a lesson.

A Suggested Program

SONG SERVICE — Hymns of faith and courage.
SCRIPTURE LESSON — Romans 12:1, 2; Ephesians 5: 15-31.
HYMN.
SEASON OF PRAYER.
SPECIAL MUSIC — "Loyalty to Christ."
LEADER'S TALK — "Speak for Yourself, John."
ADDITIONAL TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION:
- How can we stand for God?
- What "rights" can be established in the face of wrong?
- Why must we take sides with or against God?
- In what spirit must we fight God's battles?
- Give some Bible examples of men and women who fearlessly stood for God and right.
- Give some secular examples of great moral courage.

SENTENCE PRAYERS — For greater moral and spiritual courage.
Pastor's last five minutes.
CLOSING HYMN AND BENEDICTION.

An Idea

What issue in your school is of greatest importance—cheating, boy and girl friendships, clean athletics? Take that subject and make it the center of a "red hot" discussion for this meeting. Air the problem, then endeavor to bring a Christian solution to the problem.

Bible Readings

M., Jan. 10. Praying For Witness. Romans 10:1.
T., Jan. 11. Winning Others Is Important. James 5:19, 20.
W., Jan. 12. The Sober Life. Titus 2:11-14.
T., Jan. 13. The Deceptive Life. Psalm 139:23, 24.
F., Jan. 14. Truth Brings Peace. Malachi 2:6.
S., Jan. 15. Truth Required of Every Man. Zech. 8:16, 17.
Sun., Jan. 16. Topic—"Speak For Yourself, John." Romans 12:1, 2; Eph. 5:15-21.

Senior-Young People

— JANUARY 23 —

We Study The New Commandment

Fourth Topic in a Series on "The Commandments Then and Now"

John 13:33-35; I John 3:14-24

Comments by Earle W. Gates

Pattern For The Meeting

The leader of this meeting should make careful preparation for its success by these steps:

Pray for God's blessing and help.

Study the Bible selections given.

Read the following material, then add his own thoughts, experiences, and other illustrations.

Plan a brief Leader's Talk to make clear the purposes of the meeting.

This topic is the fourth and the last in a series on *The Commandments Then And Now.* First of all read the topic for January 2 and those following. Together we have discussed why we have commandments and have studied each one individually. Today we shall discuss the great commandment, "Love one another as I have loved you." Strive to illustrate through the meeting various kinds of love, such as love between mother and children, husband and wife, brother and sister, boy and girl friend, school chums, a boy and his pet, etc., and especially between Christ and His follower. Do this by means of pictures or any other way possible. Teach the importance of first having the quality of "love" in order to be able to follow the commandments and all the teachings of Christ.

Aim of The Topic

1. To review the Commandments of God.

2. To find the importance of the Commandment of Love.

3. To learn fully that we cannot fulfull the law unless we have the spirit of Christ within us.

Why This Commandment?

God gave the Ten Commandments to Moses on tablets of stone on the top of Mount Sinai. Jesus endorsed them, but spoke a new commandment to His disciples, saying, "A new commandment I give unto you, 'That you love one another, as I have loved you, that ye also love one another'." He added an important word to that thought, saying, "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." In short, others know what we really are and whether or not we belong to Christ by the love we show to others.

Jesus did not come to destroy the law but to fulfill it. His teaching was itself love. He fulfilled it in His own love, His teachings, and His life. We cannot fulfill the law unless we have the spirit of Christ within us, which is the spirit of love. If we are filled with the love of Christ, we will exercise the proper attitude toward God and our neighbors in *every* relationship of life. This love will even extend to our enemies. Jesus taught such love in many of His parables. The familiar and much loved story of the Good Samaritan is one such excellent example. It was told to illustrate this lesson. If we love in the way that Christ has commanded us we will help even those we call our enemies.

Briefly going over the Ten Commandments we find that if we possess love for one another as Christ loved us, and if we love Christ Himself, we will not break the Commandments. If we *love Him* with our whole heart, mind, and soul, we could not (1) have other gods before us, (2) make any graven images, (3) take the name of our Lord in vain, (4) do other than keep the Lord's Day holy. If we *love one another* as He loves us, we would (5) certainly honor and respect our parents, (6) could neither hate nor kill another, (7) would not take the loved one of another, or commit an immoral act against another, (8) would not steal another's possessions, (9) would not tell false tales concerning another, and (10) would not

This Commandment Then

It was important in the day that Jesus taught this new commandment of love that His followers practice it. At this particular time Jesus knew that He was to be betrayed and was informing His disciples of His knowledge. He had already made it very clear that Judas was the one to betray Him. Jesus said, "That thou doest, do quickly." (John 13:27). Judas left. Jesus told the others that God was to be glorified in Him. Then He told them that He had only a little while to be with them. He would not be in their presense physically, therefore they would need each other's help more and must love one another as He had always loved them. He was not telling them to do something that He had not done. It was still not clear to the disciples exactly what was happening. He told them that where He was going they could not go yet, but they did not understand.

These disciples needed Jesus' final lesson on "love," as they would deeply miss His daily example of love before them. They would then have to lean on the memory of His love, teaching, and examples. His responsibilities would soon be theirs. He wanted them to remember that "God is love."

This Commandment Now

This wonderful, but difficult, commandment of loving one another as Christ loved us is just as much needed today as 2000 years ago. As we pick up a newspaper or listen to a news report we hear of murders, divorces, wars, thefts, violence in all forms. All are a result of a lack of love for each other. Love for self exceeds that of others and many times exceeds even our love for our Lord.

If we truly have this love of which we speak, it will be seen and recognized by our actions, not only by our lip service. It is so often easy to "talk" about what we should do, and the way we should act, and the people we *should* love, but it is quite another thing to *do* it.

Our second Scripture lesson for today is perhaps even more severe. Here we learn that if we hate, it is as bad as murder. To have such a feeling in our thoughts is as wrong as carrying it out in deed. Christ loved us so much He laid down His life for us. Therefore, we should be willing to lay down our lives for our brethren. If we see a brother in need, and do not help, we can not have the love of God in us. These lessons do not apply to Bible days only, but to today as well. "He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love." (I John 4: 8).

Scripture Passages

M., Jan. 17. The First Law. Deut. 6:5-9.

T., Jan. 18. The Second Law. Mark 12:31.

W., Jan. 19. Love At Work. Luke 10:25-37.

T., Jan. 20. Needs Met And Unmet. Matt. 25:31-46.

F., Jan. 21. No Greater Love. John 15:13, 14;19:17, 18.

S., Jan. 22. A Divine Gift. John 3:16.

Sun., Jan. 23. Topic—We Study the New Commandment. John 13:33-35; I John 3:14-24.

A SEED THOUGHT

"Love is the road to God, for love, endless love, is Himself."

— Sonnenberg

FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION

1. Do you believe that you should attempt to follow this "New Commandment"? Why?

2. Is it as important as any one of the Ten Commandments? Give reasons for your answer.

3. Why do you think that Jesus thought it necessary to teach this Commandment?

4. List some ways in which Jesus taught "love of others" by His life.

5. Name some parables in which love is the lesson taught.

6. Where is love lacking in your society?

7. How could love in practice in the world today change our newspaper headlines?

8. What do you think of the statement "Hate is as wrong as murder"?

9. If you saw a brother in need, for example as one in the story of "The Good Samaritan," which of the three passers-by would you be? Why? (Think carefully, and be honest in your answer.)

10. Would you be willing to give your life for another?

11. How can you better practice this love teaching of Jesus?

12. What does the New Commandment mean to you personally?

Needed: "Early Christians"

Fourth Topic in a Series on "Personally Speaking"

John 20:20-23; Colossians 3:12-17; Hebrews 12:1, 2

Intermediate

— JANUARY 23 —

Comments by Raymond M. Veh

Our Aims

1. To appreciate the qualities of the first century Christians.
2. To discover the basis for the courage of these early Christians.
3. To see what would happen if we were courageous witnesses.

Early Torch-bearers

The writer of Hebrews suggests that men who carried on the work of God in those early centuries did so because of the faith they had in God. With the coming of Jesus Christ a new type of leadership arose. The apostles of Jesus carried on his work after he died. Jesus had promised them a Comforter that should lead them and guide them in all their ways. This promised leadership was theirs and they rose to fulfill it.

Who led the church through the centuries from the days of Jesus to our present day? This is a timely question for us. The answer to this question is church history from the first century until now. There were many leaders all of whom should have credit. We can point out only a few of them so that we will want to discover for ourselves just who the great torch-bearers were that led the church in testing days.

Many crises came to the church in the days that have past. Some days were crowded with disappointments and discouragements. Other days brought victory for the church of Christ.

We are "compassed about with a great cloud of witnesses," as the writer of Hebrews declares. He named the heroes of the Old Testament, and we can add the heroes of the New Testament. In addition there are the heroes today: Kagawa, Stanley Jones, Albert Schweitzer and our missionaries in many lands. These are our examples, and we cannot let them down.

Looking Unto Jesus

Not only are these torchbearers of the past and present our examples, they also point us to Jesus. Therein is their strength, and therein is ours. One experience with Christ is sufficient to send us out as torch-bearers. In the middle of the sixteenth century in England, when the light was being kindled to flame, Queen Mary determined that it should not shine. She aroused the prelates of the church to do away with Protestants who dared to preach from the Scriptures. Latimer and Bishop Ridley of London, were taken out of their prisons at Oxford and were burned at the stake. As the flames shot up around him, Latimer said to Bishop Ridley, "Play the man, Master Ridley, we shall this day light such a candle, by God's grace, in England as I trust shall never be put out."

"Let Us Run." (Hebrews 12:2) Airplane engines are always tested with a propeller. If the wind resistance were not added the machinery would wrack itself to pieces. Many Christians are in that predicament. Young people's societies, too, may be running at top speed, but actually running themselves to pieces. How about your Christian Endeavor? Dr. G. L. Schaller, in writing to adult leaders in the various conferences of his denomination said, ". . . The average adult group is a mere listening group . . . It suggests that the leaders of the church have been content if men and women merely attend meetings." Could this be said about young people's activities too? We are told to run, but "with patience."

Qualities of a Christian

1. *A positive personality.* An inward strengthening which enables one to meet courageously every situation. A realization of Paul's words. "I can do all things in him that strengtheneth me."

2. *A genuine happiness.* One leader expressed it by saying that there was more bubbling over in a Christian group. One of the qualities of a person who knows Christ's presence is a joyousness which radiates from his entire personality.

3. *An inner peace.* A Christian, even in days of rushing, experiences an inner serenity that nothing can disturb.

4. *Love for others.* Christians have a love which is creative enough to make something lovable in all men. This love goes out to all persons, seeking nothing in return.

To experience true Christian living means living in right and creative relationships with God, fellow man and the world. It requires a constant growth, calling for real discipline.

Do we possess these qualities today? How can we evidence them? How can we share these traits of character and consecration with others?

Planning the Topic

Place a blackboard as well as a large map of the world at the front of the room. The blackboard can be placed on the left; the map hung on the wall on the right of the room. In a general way place on the blackboard the streets, rivers, business areas, residential areas as well as the position of all the churches of the town. This has as its purpose "community perspective."

The purpose of the map will be to give the youth an idea of the world. Between the two place a placard stating on it *We Carry On.* You will want to keep in mind that it is from our communities that the spirit of torchbearing emanates. In the light of that which has been suggested in the Scripture, ask several young people to bear the torch for Jesus Christ representing the various phases suggested. The following will serve as an outline: 1. The torch through personal example. 2. The torch of the Christian home. 3. The torch of the church; a. Teaching, b. Missionary zeal, c. Sacrificial giving, d. Giving out of Bibles. 4. The torch of brotherhood and good will for the world. 5. The torch of peace and a war-less world. Each of these people should carry a taper representing the torch they are carrying.

The Cost in Persecution

This has never been a friendly world. Totalitarian ruthlessness is nothing new although we may give the brand another name. Christians in the first century sang their hymns of faith as they burned at the stake or were torn asunder by the wild beasts. Nero fiddled while Rome burned, set afire by his own hand. And then to shift the guilt he accused the Christians. They were saturated in oil and then were set ablaze to light his gardens. We can't say "We didn't know what it would cost," for we read from the lips of Jesus, "Remember the word that I said unto you, A servant is not greater than his lord. If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you." (John 15:20).

The Cost Is Repaid.

We are interested in the outcomes. Does it pay to be a disciple of Jesus Christ? Is it worth the cost? The repayment can't be measured in terms of dollars or cents.

ANSWER THESE

1. What value is there in studying the lives of the great leaders of the past?

2. St. Augustine provided the Christian world with a theology; St. Francis of Assisi a way of working with the poor. Which is the best contribution? Explain.

3. What part did Luther play as a torchbearer in the Christian world?

4. Do you believe in a United Protestantism? If so, explain.

5. If a union of all faiths were possible show the effects of such a move in the Mission Field.

6. What in reality is the cause of so many denominations in the world? Would you advocate a state operated and controlled religion?

7. Do you believe that the great commission was given for all Christians in all ages? Explain.

8. What is wrong with the church where only a handful of people do all the work and the rest sit idly by?

From The Book of Books

M., Jan. 17. Christians, The Light of The World. Matt. 5:14-16.

T., Jan. 18. A Bold Prophet. Jeremiah 26:8-15.

W., Jan. 19. Peter's Vision. Acts 10:34, 35.

T., Jan. 20. Paul's Vision. Acts 17:24-28.

F., Jan. 21. Men of Faith. Acts 12:24, 25.

S., Jan. 22. True Love From God. 1 John 4:7-11.

Sun., Jan. 23. Topic—Needed: "Early Christians." John 20:20-23; Col. 3:12-17; Heb. 12-1, 2.

Senior-Young People

— JANUARY 30 —

Comments by Earle W. Gates

Pattern For The Meeting

The leader of this meeting should make careful preparation for its success by these steps:
Pray for God's blessing and help.
Study the Bible selections given.
Read the following material, then add his own thoughts, experiences, and other illustrations.
Plan a brief Leader's Talk to make clear the purpose of the meeting.

Once again we observe *Christian Endeavor Week,* the anniversary season of the founding of our beloved movement. It is observed in some churches and denominations simply as Youth Week, but it springs from the root of Christian Endeavor, "the Pioneer Religious Youth Movement." February 2nd being the actual anniversary date of the founding, the week embracing it is set aside. This year it comes January 30 –February 7. The 74th birthday of Christian Endeavor, founded in the Williston Congregational Church of Portland, Maine in 1881, is observed at this time. Special plans should be made for the entire week.

The leader of this meeting may well be the one to bring these things to the attention of the society, lest adequate plans have not been completed. Check plans for a *Christian Endeavor Week* banquet or other social event. It is not too late to begin one even now if it has been overlooked. Plan some event for "others,"—adults, shut-ins, the underprivileged, etc. Also strive to win others for Christ. Stress attendance at any local, state, or provincial union functions being held. Use any audio-visual opportunities open to you, perhaps using the materials prepared by the state union, or the International Society. A worthwhile program should be planned. This may include membership recruiting, Evangelism, leadership training, or service projects. One of the finest would be a study class to begin in the near future. In this the basic principles of Christian Endeavor could be re-studied and evaluated. This should include the Four Cardinal Principles of the Movement, the Christian Endeavor Pledge, the Quiet Hour, the Tenth Legion, duties of officers, program building, etc. Such a class might well use as a text book *Christian Endeavor Essentials,* our valuable handbook. Thus can we continue to go *Forward With Christ.*

FOR DISCUSSION

1. What does the Lordship of Christ mean to you?
2. What does this Lordship imply?
3. What will it cost us? How will it reward us?
4. How do we acknowledge that He is such a Lord of our lives?
5. What do we mean that all men are our brothers?
6. What is different about Christian brotherhood?
7. How can we help bridge the gaps that separate mankind?
8. How can we reach others for Christ?
9. What does our Christian Endeavor society do to help this?
10. How can we make Christian Endeavor Week more important and lasting?

Christ Our Lord — Man Our Brother

First Topic in a Series on "Christian Endeavor Week"

Romans 14:1-9; Hebrews 13:1-3

(Denominational Sunday — Beginning Christian Endeavor Week)

A SEED THOUGHT
"If we are sons of the Father, we act as brothers together."

Aim Of The Topic

1. To renew our loyalty to Christian Endeavor and to our own denomination.
2. To consider the Lordship of Christ and our responsibilities to our brothers.

Great Day — Great Theme

A significant anniversary in the experience of youth is ours this week. On February 2 we observe the great and marvelous birth of the Christian Endeavor Movement. This changed the entire life of young people in the Protestant Church. The beloved movement of which we are a part has made youth aware of its responsibility to Christ and to the Church. It has made the Church aware of its youth. Each generation of Endeavorers should be dedicated to the principle of giving one's best "For Christ and the Church," which is the motto of the movement. Young people should have a concern for the program of their own Churches. To this end they should co-operate with pastor and denomination. This week, dedicated to Youth across the world, can be the time of beginning, for Society and for individual.

This important day has called forth a challenging theme. "Christ Our Lord—Man Our Brother" is the foundation upon which this week's program can be based. Since today is also Denominational Day, this can well be related to the total theme. This particular topic is designed to point up the fact that with Christ as our Lord, we have a definite responsibility to our fellowman. Such a theme impels us to respond to the call of Christ, then to realize the service we are to render to others in His Name.

Christ Our Lord

There is no greater call that we may hear in *Christian Endeavor Week* than that of our Saviour to come unto Him. There is no voice more to be trusted in counsel than His. Every young man and woman must come face to face with Jesus Christ, then make his own answer to the ancient question, "What shall I do with Christ?" The wise gladly answer "Lo, I come. I come to do Thy will, O my God." With the lordship of Christ being thus established life begins to take on a different purpose and quality. Only as we yield our lives completely to Him can we live as great lives as are possible. It is not enough that we know Him as a great figure of history, or as a Friend, or as an example —though He is all of these. It is not even enough to accept Him as Saviour—though that is imperative. We must proclaim Him Lord! He must be permitted to rule in *all* the areas of life. In short, He must be "Lord of all, or not at all."

Man Our Brother

There are at least two ways we may think of this relationship. Men vary widely in their interpretation of this phrase. But there is a Christian median! First we must remember that all mankind are our brothers in the flesh; we are created by the same God. We also receive the same generous sharing of temporal blessings. Any man in need is our brother. One of the beauties of the Parable of the Good Samaritan is that it describes the one in need as "a certain man." No need of further classification. Neither is it necessary to group people as white, black or yellow, as Jews or Gentiles, by class, creed, or estate, when need is concerned. If we are sons of God, our compassion is stirred by the cries of every fellow traveler on life's road. We are part of a physical brotherhood, though we disagree in principles. One's blood brother does not always agree, —but he is still the brother.

There is however the Great Brotherhood in Christ. No other approaches such communion. This is the real, the true, the lasting. Indeed such a one-ness is "like to that above." It is the fraternity of the people of earth who have accepted for themselves the everlasting sacrifice of Christ on Calvary. "But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God." (John 1: 12). Here is brotherhood at its finest. It is spiritual joining because the brothers are sons of God by spiritual re-birth. Our unity is in Christ. Truly we pray as we sing, "Bless'd be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love." If Christ Jesus is our Lord, all men will appear different to us, and we will treat them with greater love and charity. But every Christian will be to us a distinct reminder of Christ. This is the difference; this we do in remembrance of Him. In the physical brotherhood we have concern for the bodies and minds of men. In the spiritual brotherhood we must seek and reach the soul, that eternal commodity.

Daily Bible Readings

M., Jan. 24. Brotherly Relations. Zechariah 7:8-14.
T., Jan. 25. Out of One Blood. Acts 17:26-28.
W., Jan. 26. One Body In Christ. Romans 12:4-10.
T., Jan. 27. Judge Not One Another. Romans 14:12-17.
F., Jan. 28. Unbiased Judgment. Matt. 7:1-5.
S., Jan. 29. Who Is My Neighbor? Luke 10:29-37.
Sun., Jan. 30. Topic—Christ Our Lord—Man Our Brother. Romans 14:1-9. Hebrews 13:1-3. (Denominational Sunday-Beginning C. E. Week)

Christ Our Lord — Man Our Brother

First Topic in a Series on "Christian Endeavor Week"

Romans 14:1-9; Hebrews 13:1-3

(Denominational Sunday — Beginning Christian Endeavor Week)

Intermediate

— JANUARY 30 —

Comments by Raymond M. Veb

Our Aims

1. To properly observe Denominational Day as Christian Endeavor Week — Youth Week opens.
2. To gain new allegiance to Christ.
3. To emphasize Christian fellowship and have concern for our fellowmen.

Worship Program

HYMN — O Zion, Haste.
POEM — "Brotherhood." Edward Markham — "Quotable Poems," Vol. 1
PRAYER — By leader. (standing)
HYMN — "The Whole Wide World for Jesus."
TALK — Fatherhood of God.
BIBLE PASSAGES — About the Fatherhood of God.
TALK — Brotherhood of Man.
BIBLE PASSAGES — About the Brotherhood of Man.
DISCUSSION — Either of projects or the answering of questions.
HYMN—"That Cause Can Neither Be Lost or Stayed."
BENEDICTION.

Denominational Sunday

Every society is interested in its denominational program. Every denomination has its comprehensive program to promote. As this great week devoted to youth opens ask your pastor to talk on the program of your church in all departments. Follow with a discussion as to how your society may have a part in the denominational program.

Christ Our Lord

Protestants believe in a living Saviour, who now sits at the right hand of God, making intercession for us. He is our great High Priest, and it is to Him that we must come if we are to have an answer to our prayers. Because He lives, we may live also.

Jesus Knew the Needs of Men

The sensitive spirit of Jesus was deeply moved by human suffering. Hunger and pain, sorrow and strife prompted Jesus to action. He accumulated no wealth and always shunned special privileges. He manifested little concern about his own comfort.

Jesus knew that He could obtain power as did other men whom He had seen in high places wielding great power because they compromised with evil. But He refused to compromise, choosing to serve God, trusting Him for sufficient power. He also had an opportunity to use His ability and put on a dramatic act, thus winning a large following, but He did not yield. He was determined to use all of His time and energy in the direct accomplishment of the work God had sent Him to do.

Jesus refused to follow the pathways of compromise. He recommended all the virtues which are conducive to harmonious relations. His gospel could be summed up in the two great commandments: "You must love the Lord your God with your whole heart, your whole soul, and your whole mind" and "You must love your neighbor as you do yourself."

What did Jesus say about loving only those who love us?

Love in Action

Brotherhood is love in action. It's foolish to teach people to act brotherly toward each other when their hearts are full of hatred. That's why Jesus said that the first and great commandment was to love the Lord with all our heart, soul, mind and strength. (Matthew 22:37). Even churches and Christian Endeavorers may be without this necessary ingredient to brotherhood. C. F. Andrews of England, while working to help the Indian laborers in South Africa, was asked to preach in a Christian church. A friend of Mahatma Gandhi brought him to the service, but Gandhi was refused admission because of the color of his skin. Andrews said "In such an act I felt that Christ Himself had been denied entrance into His own church."

A Correct Mental Attitude

Paul in speaking to the Athenians said, "And he made of one every nation on all the face of the earth." (Acts 17:26). The first consideration is therefore the fact that God is Father of us all. Paul further states, "For in him we live . . . for we are also his offspring." (Acts 17:28). Because God is our Father, we live and move in Him. We conclude therefore that we should practice the Christian brotherhood of man.

We Are Alike

It has been scientifically demonstrated that in physical structure and chemical composition all men are alike. To be sure there is a difference in stature, color, facial expression. Men are actually much closer physically and spiritually than they are ready to admit. On this a world brotherhood can be built. Men are brothers and it is our spiritual obligation to teach them this fact. When men admit this they will not submit to this mad way of killing each other. In a world of brotherhood the contributions of every race and people become the common property of all, "All for one; one for all." For this end God created men; for this end Christ died and rose again; for this end every Christian ought to work. The following scriptural passages may aid: Isaiah 43:6, 7; Psalm 82:6; Jeremiah 3:17; Matthew 22:36-40; 28:18-20; John 3:16; Galatians 6:10; Acts 10:34, 35.

Jesus Ministered to All Groups

As Jesus went about doing good He aroused much opposition. When He treated Samaritans as equals He stirred up feelings similar to those aroused in some white communities today when we say that the Negroes should be treated as equals. Some looked with disapproval on Jesus' practice of mingling freely with the common people.

Jesus' way calls for recognizing people for their worth as individuals, and as part of God's divine creation. In His concept of human society Jesus crossed barriers of geography and race. He thus upset long-established practices. Even 2,000 years later we are not quite ready to accept Jesus' revolutionary ideas. But must not man reckon with them now or in the future?

For the Wider Viewpoint

The World Council of Churches Second Assembly meeting at Evanston, Ill., in August, 1954, made a significant pronouncement on this subject which evidences the thinking of the church across the world on this matter of "Man Our Brother." We quote portions of the statement so that you may discuss it. The report will be hotly debated in many circles. There are deep emotional convictions on the subject, and various sections of the nation will react in differing ways. Yet the report seeks to base its spirit and meaning on the Gospel as revealed by Christ.

Here are pungent statements from the Council's report:

"Separation solely on the grounds of race is abhorrent in the eyes of God.

"We seek to justify such exclusion on the ground of difference of culture, or on the ground that a residential pattern of segregation necessitates it, or on the ground that the time is not yet ripe.

"The church is called upon to set aside such excuses and to declare God's will both in words and deeds. We believe it to be the will of God that such proof in word and deed now be given.

"We need to repent of our separation from God.

(Please turn to Page 19, Col. 3)

FOR DISCUSSION

1. Can you suggest ways by which brotherhood can be promoted?
2. In what way are we our brother's keeper?
3. What has Christian brotherhood done for the Filipino? United States?
4. What has Christian brotherhood done for the Filipino?
5. Do we still have a race problem with the Negro?
6. Why is it necessary to evangelize all races and people in America?

Bible References

M., Jan. 24. Brotherly Relations. Zech. 7:8-14.
T., Jan. 25. Out of One Blood. Acts 17:26-28.
W., Jan. 26. One Body In Christ. Romans 12:4-10.
T., Jan. 27. Judge Not One Another. Romans 14:12, 17.
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Sun., Jan. 30. Topic—Christ Our Lord—Man Our Brother. Romans 14:1-9; Heb. 13:1-3. (Denominational Sunday-Beginning C. E. Week)

How To Win Youth

(*Continued from Page* 3, *Col.* 3)

One young people's group had a splendid social meeting in the home of a friend one evening; then sang choruses and hymns for a brief period and led toward a beautiful and impressive candlelight service. It is hard to know what to call it, a party or a prayer meeting, but it ended up that each individual had selected a name of an unsaved person to pray for and to endeavor to lead to Christ.

A high school society had a hay rack ride on a Saturday night before a series of evangelistic meetings. It ended in a fireside circle prayer and consecration time. This resulted in one of the group giving his heart to Christ and several teams accepting names of unchurched youth that were to be the subject of prayer and visitation.

2. Set up the organization for visitation.

(1) Thoroughly *discuss under a capable leader the importance of visitation as a method of evangelism* using such materials as the pamphlets "Evangelism Through the Local Church" and "A Workable Plan of Evangelism" both by Dawson C. Bryan. Be sure to consider the Bible basis for visitation —Jesus sent out twelve apostles (Mark 3:14-15) and the seventy two by two. (Luke 10:1). The early Church followed this plan of evangelism, (Acts 2:46; 5:42) and Paul used it. (Acts 20:20; 20:28).

(2) *Officially adopt the plan and appoint a committee* to set it up and administer it.

(3) *Get a list of prospects*—from Sunday school class rolls, individual prayer lists turned into the group, and from the pastor. Be definite and get names, addresses, telephone numbers, grade in school if in school, or information on employment. Write each name on an individual 3 x 5 card to be handed out to teams of workers easily. Keep a master copy of the list for reference.

(4) *Secure workers* — ask for volunteers and then add to the list of workers by personally soliciting the help of some who do not volunteer. The committee or some seasoned leader who knows the young people very well should team up the workers two by two.

(5) *Set a time* preferably a week in which the visitation is concentrated. Make this the major activity of that week.

(6) *Hold a prayer meeting with the workers* during the week before the visitation. Give them definite assignments of names for visitation and instruct them what is to be done. Another prayer meeting should be held in the middle of the visitation week and partial reports should be turned in to the committee at this time.

(7) *Have the workers attend a regular church service* in a body the Sunday before the visitation starts and let the pastor in sermon or announcement call attention to what the Christian Endeavor young people are doing. If he is agreed, it would be well to have the pastor call this group of workers around the altar of the church in the regular church service for a prayer of consecration.

(8) *Duties of team workers in visitation.*

a. Pray individually, and together with team worker before going on visitation, as well as attend the special prayer meetings and instructional meetings.

b. Visit in person with team worker the persons assigned to the team.

c. Check to see that addresses and other information is correct.

d. Ask about the individual's Christian life in a positive way, by saying to the person—"You are a Christian, aren't you?" If he answers yes when he isn't his conscience will disturb him and the Holy Sprit will do His work in bringing him under conviction. If he answers yes, then you proceed to encourage him to come to the Christian Endeavor and other church services. If he answers no, but shows signs of interest proceed to give him assurance that he can become a real Christian. Use verses of scripture such as John 1:12, John 5:24, John 6:37 (last part), John 7:37, and I John 1:9. It might be well to have a supply of the little trac "How to be Saved and Live th Christian Life" by the same autho or some similar tract to leave wit those who show the least sign o interest.

e. Speak a good word for th church and pastor.

f. Ask to have prayer. Pray (pro ably seated right where you ar or standing together) definitely fo your friend you are visiting and hi home.

g. Write on the card after leavin the home a detailed report of th visit, giving an answer to the fo lowing:

Did he profess to be a Christian

Did you have prayer? Should th person be followed up by othe workers? Why?

Is he a member of the church Christian Endeavor? Sunday School

Did he promise to attend th services of the Church?

Then sign the report.

h. Give your cards with writte report of visits to the committee i charge at the earliest opportunity

What reward do we have?

"He that winneth souls is wise." (Pro verbs 11:30.) "They that turn many t righteousness as the stars forever an ever." (Daniel 12:3.) "He which conve teth a sinner from the error of his wa shall save a soul from death and hide multitude of sins." (James 5:20.)

A faithfully planned and carried ou program of visitation evangelism produce certain results:

(a) Those who have been indifferen are brought back.

(b) Non-church going persons receiv the personal witness and are convince the Christians are interested.

(c) It gives the ardent Christian yout a chance for personal Christian servic and thereby he always grows spiritually

(d) Many will be won to Christ wh otherwise might be lost eternally.

(e) The whole church will be in spired and the pastor will be encourage

TRACT EVANGELISM . . .

Leaders of Christian Endeavor in Grand Rapids, Michigan, discuss plans for second tract contest. Pictured (left to right) are Harold R. Van't Hof, Ruth Cole, Bob Bartleson, and Ray Stelhouwer.

As a method of evangelism the Christian Endeavor Unions conducted a contest and gave four awards to writers of tracts and one for the best design for a cover. The tracts were published and are being widely distributed. Judging was done by a panel of local Endeavorers with the final decisions made by Dr. Jacob Prins, minister of Evangelism of the Reformed Church in America. Winners, who received a one-week trip through mission stations in Kentucky, were John Grooters, Carol Hondorp, Lavina Hoogeveen, and Larry Grooters.

Plan For C. E. Week

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enior — Young People — Jan. 16

(*Continued from Page* 12, *Col.* 3)

irely is to break this precept. An idle or nkind tongue can work great evil.

What is the best way to meet the prob-m of false reports, rumors, and gossip?

6. The Tenth Commandment sets forth veral things that we are not to covet. othing that is our neighbors is to be lusted ter or desired. This is to utterly break own the law of love. We are to "live and t live," or better yet, "live and help ve." It is better to offer ourselves and ur possessions to our neighbors than to e envious or covetous of his things.

What do we covet today that is con-ary to God's will?

ntermediate — Jan. 30

(*Continued from Page* 17, *Col.* 3)

"True repentance is followed by a new ssurance of God's power and a new obe-ience, and this new assurance fills church nd man with hope.

"There the problems of race, difficult as ney are, insoluble as they sometimes ap-ear to be, provide for Christians an op-ortunity for obedience and for a deeper nderstanding.

"When we are given Christian insight ne whole pattern of racial discrimination seen as an unutterable offense against od."

JUNIOR CE MEETINGS

The Quarterly for Juniors

Topics for JANUARY

Jan. 2. **Our God Is Wonderful.** Psalm 8.

Jan. 9. **Our God Is Here.** Psalm 139:1-10,23,24.

Jan. 16. **Our God Is Love.** I John 4:7-11,18,19

Jan. 23. **Our God Is Just.** Matthew 18:23-35.

Jan. 30 **Our God Calls Juniors.** Isaiah 6:1-8.

Price — $1.50 per year; 40c per copy.

Send orders, with cash, for copies or subscription to International Society of Christian Endeavor, 1221 East Broad Street,, Columbus 16, Ohio.

When we practice racial segregation do we in effect say: "You made a mistake, God, when you made peoples of different races and colors?" Is there anywhere in the Bible that justifies the church to build fences to keep people of different colors outside its doors?

Have you started planning for your Christian Endeavor Week Program?

Intermediate — Jan. 9

(*Continued from Page* 11, *Col.* 3)

was a high school freshman that she would never study her lessons on Sunday. She strictly kept that law through high school and college. She also kept good fellowship and confidence with other young people. For our Christian character building we need to set some rules and standards for our behavior.

Why Starve Our Spiritual Selves?

If we are true disciples of His—true Christians—what will be our answer? When we study on Sunday and fail to attend church, when we fail to pray, when we do not regularly read God's Word, when we do not nourish our minds on the truths of the faith, then, we need honestly to ask: "Are we starving ourselves?"

For our souls need nourishment just as much as our bodies need it. "Man shall not live by bread alone," Jesus reminds us, "but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God." Spiritual sustenance, in the form of great truths, inspiring thoughts, noble purposes, and kindled ideals, is just as necessary to the human spirit as food is to the human body.

CLASSIFIED

WANTED—Full-time position in Christian Endeavor work by Life-Work Recruit, College Graduate with some seminary study and pastoral experience. Reply Box 11, The Christian Endeavor World.

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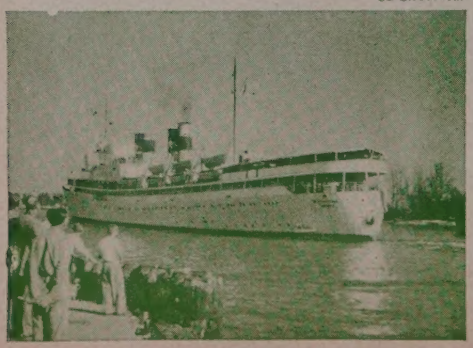

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